

REMARKS

The indication that claims 17-21 have been allowed and that claims 11-16 and 23-24 include patentable subject matter is acknowledged with thanks. In reliance thereon, claims 11, 14-15, and 24 have been amended into independent form by adding the subject matter of claim 9 thereto to place these claims in condition for allowance.

Claims 9-10 and 22-23 have been canceled to place the application in condition for allowance.

Claims 9, 10, and 22 were rejected as unpatentable over SGIAROVELLO et al. EP 1 046 469 A2 in view of KLANN 4,219,918. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested in view of the present amendment in which these claims have been canceled.

In view of the present amendment, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

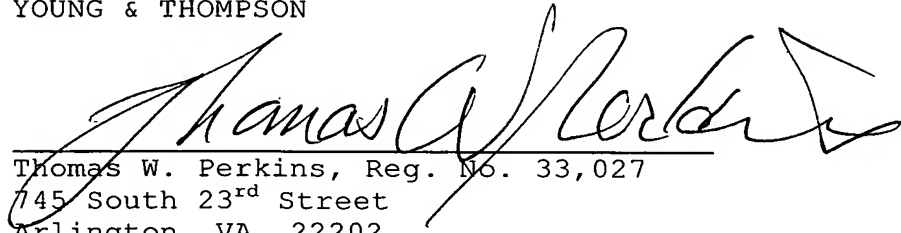
Please charge the fee of \$200 for the two extra independent claims added herewith, to Deposit Account No. 25-0120.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional
fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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